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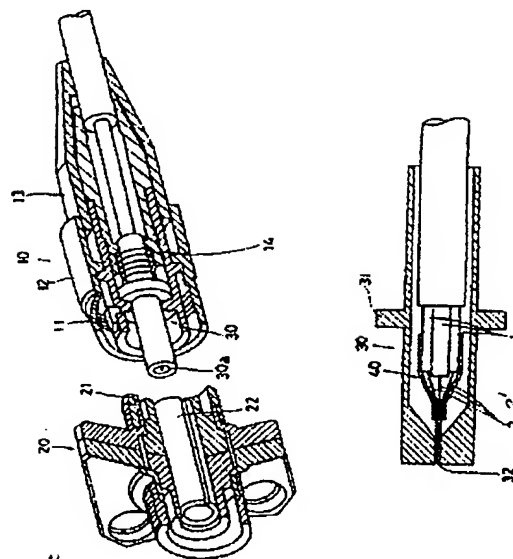
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APPLICANT : NIPPON TELEGR & TELEPH CORP
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TITLE : CONNECTING METHOD OF
MULTICORED OPTICAL FIBER



ABSTRACT : PURPOSE: To enable realization of connection with high density and to perform setting of the central position with high accuracy with respect to the outside circumference of a core having just a simple circular shape and control of the hole diameter by making use of one core in connecting fibers.

CONSTITUTION: A pair of plugs 10 are connected to an adapter 20. The positioning key 11 of each plug 10 is engaged with the engaging groove 21 of the adapter 20 to position circumferentially a core 30. A clad is removed from the end of a clad optical fiber 1 to expose optical fibers 2. A circular cylindrical body 2' (an optical fiber may be used as a dummy) having the max. outside diameter is disposed at the center of the many optical fibers 2 and thereafter the multicore fibers 2 are assembled by a heat shrinkable tube 40. The central dummy fiber 2' is provided at the center and the fibers 2 are provided on the outside. The top ends of the seven-cored fibers 2, 2' are assembled into a hexagonal shape by the shrinkage force acted toward the center when the tube 40 heated to shrink, by which an optical fiber bundle is formed. The core 30 is inserted into a split sleeve 22 in the stage of connecting.

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